

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-12 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-2, 7 and 11 have been amended. The Examiner's rejection is dealt with below.

I. The claims are novel over Shanahan et al., US Patent Publication 2005/002214

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 and 5-12 under 35 USC §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Shanahan et al., US Patent Publication 2005/002214 (hereinafter Shanahan). The Applicants respectfully disagree. To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach each and every element of the claim as required by MPEP §2131.

The Examiner maintains the rejection as recited in the previous Office Action (dated April 6, 2006). In brief, the Examiner contends that Shanahan discloses 1) receiving a document over an electronic communication network, 2) converting the unformatted document into a formatted document, 3) permitting a user to add contextual markups to the formatted document to generate a markup document, and 4) displaying the mark-up document (Office Action, page 4).

The Applicants respectfully disagree. However, for business purposes and to further the prosecution of the present application, while reserving the right to prosecute the original or similar claims in the future, the Applicants have amended the claims to recite “...convert submitted formatted documents to standardized formatted documents ...” and “... wherein said contextual markups comprise editorial comments, corrections, annotations, symbols and comments added by said user...” Support for the amendments are found in the specification at, for example, page 10 lines 25-31, Figure 13, pages 3-4 lines 23-31 and lines 1-2, Figure 15, and pages 11-12 lines 24-31 and lines 1-2.

Shanahan does not disclose converting submitted formatted documents to standardized formatted documents. Further, Shanahan does not teach the claim element of contextual markups comprising editorial comments, corrections, annotations, symbols and comments.

As Shanahan does not teach each and every limitation of the claimed invention there can be no anticipation, and the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

CONCLUSION

All grounds of rejection of the Final Office Action of July 16, 2007 have been addressed and reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that the claims should be allowed. Should the Examiner have any questions, or if a telephone conference would aid in the prosecution of the present application, Applicants encourage the Examiner to call the undersigned collect at 608-218-6900.

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